

HEALTH

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Borough of Rugby.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

HEALTH OF THE DISTRICT

FOR THE YEAR 1940,

BY

H. GIBBONS WARD, M.D., D.P.H.,

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

OF THE

Warwickshire Combined Districts.

Leamington Spa :

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1941.

1, MILVERTON HILL,
LEAMINGTON SPA,
December, 1941.

To the Rugby Borough Council.

MR. MAYOR, MRS. GREEN, AND GENTLEMEN,

Herewith the Report for 1940 ; it is regretted that it has been delayed for various causes.

Again, as instructed by the Ministry of Health, the Report is a short statement of fact with no comment. All the available information is, however, being kept for record and, if required, can be produced.

With many thanks for much kindness on the part of the Council and my colleagues,

I am, Mr. Mayor, Mrs. Green, and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

H. GIBBONS WARD,
Medical Officer of Health.

Borough of Rugby.

A. EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

Population (estimated) Mid-year, 1940	...	...	41,670
	Total.	M.	F.
Live Births { Legitimate	558	284	274
{ Illegitimate	20	8	12
	} Birth Rate 13.9		
Still Births—Rate per 1,000 total births	...	...	40
Deaths	508	257	251
	Death Rate 12.2		
Adjusting Factor for Death Rate	...	...	1.07
Adjusted Death Rate	...	...	13.0
Deaths from Diseases and { From Sepsis	...	...	—
Accidents of Pregnancy and { „ other causes	...	...	3
Child-birth			
Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age :—			
All Infants per 1,000 live births	...	...	48
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	...	...	40
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	...	...	250
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	...	...	—
„ „ Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	...	—
„ „ Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	...	...	1

B. GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

1. *Public Health Officers.*—During the year Mr. A. V. Griffith, one of the Sanitary Inspectors, joined the Forces, and Miss P. D. Reading joined the clerical staff.

6. *Laboratory Facilities.*—The following Table shows the number of free bacteriological examinations by Birmingham University :—

	Positive.	Negative.	Total.
Diphtheria ...	18	101	119
Enteric Fever...	—	2	2
Tuberculosis ...	13	49	62
			183

C. SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

1. (1) *Water*.—18 samples of the Public Water Supply were examined during the year, and all gave satisfactory results.

Flooding of the filter beds took place in February and November, but apart from temporary shortage of supply no ill-effects resulted.

(2) *Drainage and Sewerage*.—The re-organisation of the Sewage Disposal Works into one central works has been completed. A definite improvement is indicated, the effluent being satisfactory.

Hillmorton Sewage Works are also giving good results.

The total number of cleansings of pail-closets during the year was 13,701.

2. *Rivers and Streams*.—The condition of these is satisfactory, and there have been no complaints regarding pollution.

3. (1) *Closet Accommodation*.—Approximately 230 pail closets and earth closets remain in the area, nearly all of which are in the area which was added in 1932. Owing to war conditions very little action has been possible to reduce this figure.

(2) *Public Cleansing*.—Despite difficulties owing to war conditions, the refuse collection has been carried out in an efficient manner. Special efforts have been made regarding salvage, the total amount which has been collected being comparable with towns of equal size.

The scavenging of streets has been carried out satisfactorily.

(3) *Swimming Baths*.—The purity of the water both at the Open and Closed baths has been maintained—regular tests taken showed no evidence of pollution.

D. HOUSING.

General Observations.—No systematic house-to-house inspection has been carried out.

The total number of dwelling-houses inspected under the Public Health or Housing Acts during the year is 138, and the number of visits made for the purpose is 259. In consequence of 87 notices served in respect of houses found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation 29 houses were rendered fit.

E. INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

(a) *Milk Supply*.—During the year the following samples were taken :—

- (1) 24 ordinary milks for bacteriological examination.
- (2) 24 ordinary milks for biological examination.
- (3) 46 milks for chemical analysis.

Results of the examinations or analyses :—

- (1) 4 were satisfactory.
20 were unsatisfactory.
- (2) 22 gave negative results, other results indecisive.
- (3) All 46 samples were genuine.

The vendors and producers of the unsatisfactory samples submitted for bacteriological examination were notified of the results and advised in the methods of clean milk production.

(b) *Meat Inspection*.—From the 14th January, 1940, the Ministry of Food took over control of meat supplies and from that date all slaughtering for Rugby and district has been carried out at the Cattle Market Slaughterhouses. All condemned meat and offals have been sent by the Ministry to a waste utilisation plant at Coventry.

It is necessary for an inspector to be on duty during the whole of the time that slaughtering is taking place, and the Chief Sanitary Inspector and Mr. Masi act as Meat Inspectors for the Ministry. The centralisation of slaughtering has helped in the inspection of meat in the town, and the following is a more accurate summary of the animals slaughtered for the year and meat condemned :—

	<i>Beasts.</i>	<i>Cows.</i>	<i>Sheep.</i>	<i>Pigs.</i>	<i>Calves.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Carcases Inspected	2,446	564	16,991	2,919	1,718	24,638
<i>Tuberculosis.</i>						
Whole carcasses ...	8	23	—	8	4	43
Part carcasses ...	11	8	—	143	—	162
Organs	168	123	—	29	—	320
% of animals affected ...	7.7%	27.3%	—	6.2%	.2%	
<i>Other Diseases.</i>						
Whole carcasses ...	7	8	172	6	22	215
Part carcasses ...	21	12	35	15	6	89
Organs	631	121	674	79	5	1,510
% of animals affected ...	35.1%	52.3%	5.2%	3.5%	1.8%	
Total % of animals affected ...	35.1%	52.3%	5.2%	9.7%	2.0%	
% of all animals—9.5%.						

Weight of meat condemned in pounds.

	<i>Whole</i>		<i>Part</i>		<i>Organs</i>		
	<i>Carcases.</i>		<i>Carcases.</i>		<i>(estimated).</i>		<i>Total.</i>
Beasts ...	6,311	...	2,288	...	13,850	...	22,449
Cows ...	13,750	...	983	...	4,624	...	19,357
Sheep ...	6,363	...	462	...	3,557	...	6,507
Calves ...	844	...	67	...	15	...	926
<hr/>							
Total ...	29,789	...	4,229	...	23,625	...	57,643

making a total of 25 tons 14 cwts. 75 lbs.

(c) *Bakehouses*.—There are 27 bakehouses, including factory bakehouses, on the Register, and these have been visited and supervised, and are generally well maintained and kept in a clean condition.

(d) *Food and Drugs Act, 1938*.—The Corporation are responsible for the administration of this Act, and during the year 116 samples have been taken by the sampling officers of the Corporation and were submitted to the Public Analyst for chemical analysis. One hundred and six samples were reported upon as being genuine, and 10 samples were not genuine.

The proportion of samples per 1,000 population was 2.9%, and the percentage of unsatisfactory samples was 9.03%. The average composition of samples of milk submitted for analysis was fat 3.6% and solids not fat 8.8%.

No legal proceedings were instituted in respect of unsatisfactory samples.

VI. PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Incidence of Commoner Infectious Disease since 1931.

			Diphtheria.	Scarlet Fever.	Enteric Fever.	Pneumonia.	Encephalitis Lethargica.	Puerperal Pyrexia.
1932	...	—	9	29	—	52	—	1
1933	...	—	11	244	—	79	—	2
1934	...	—	30	433	5	64	—	2
1935	...	—	84	191	1	26	—	—
1936	...	—	127	86	—	48	—	8
1937	...	—	71	163	—	84	—	22
1938	...	—	37	55	4	33	—	16
1939	...	—	5	37	—	53	—	14
1940	...	—	37	144	—	60	—	14

Reference to Table III. will give the age incidence of the cases notified during 1940.

Smallpox.—No cases were notified during the year.

Diphtheria.—During the past year there were 37 cases notified, with 2 deaths.

Of the cases, 35 were taken to the Isolation Hospital.

School Closures.—The following list indicates the prevalence of Non-notifiable Infectious Disease :—

Rugby Eastlands Infants, 18th Jan. to 12th Feb. Measles.

Rugby Eastlands Infants, 18th Nov. to 2nd Dec. Measles.

Newbold-on-Avon, 20th Feb. to 11th Mar. Measles.

Non-notifiable Infectious Disease.—There was nothing of special note.

Notification of infectious disease occurring amongst the children at school is duly sent by the teachers.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, TUBERCULOSIS.

AGE—PERIODS	NEW CASES.						DEATHS.					
	Pulmonary.			Non-Pulmonary.			Pulmonary.			Non-Pulmonary.		
	M.	F.	...	M.	F.	...	M.	F.	...	M.	F.	...
0	—	—	...	—	—	...	—	—	...
1	—	—	...	—	2	...	—	—	...
5	—	1	...	2	3	...	—	—	...
15	3	8	...	3	2	...	1	3	...
25	9	8	...	—	1	...	1	3	...
35	4	—	...	1	3	...	4	1	...
45	4	—	...	1	—	...	4	1	...
55	2	—	...	—	—	...	2	1	...
65 and upwards	—	—	...	—	—	...	—	—	...
TOTALS	22	17	...	7	11	...	12	9	...

During the past year there have been notified 57 cases. In 42 cases the lungs were affected, and the remaining 15 the disease affected other parts of the body.

Of the 57 new cases notified during the past year, 8 have died during the year.

Treatment.—During the past year 25 cases have been admitted to a Sanatorium for treatment.

11 cases were discharged after treatment.

REPORT OF SANITARY INSPECTOR.

A copy of this Report has been received and kept for reference.

TABLE I.

BOROUGH OF RUGBY.

SUMMARY OF SANITARY WORK DONE IN THE SANITARY INSPECTOR'S
DEPARTMENT DURING THE YEAR 1940.

			Inspections and Observations made.	Notices served.		Nuisances Abated after Notices.
				Statu- tory.	In- formal.	
Dwelling Houses and Schools	...	...	259	2	87	412
Lodging Houses	...	...	4	—	1	1
Cow Sheds, Dairies and } Milkshops	...	...	14	—	—	—
Bakehouses	...	...	8	—	1	1
Slaughter Houses	...	...	628	—	—	—
Ashpits and Privies	...	...	16	—	—	—
Deposits of Refuse and Manure	...	...	25	2	4	10
Water-closets	...	...	23	1	3	2
House Drainage	...	...	210	—	11	10
Water Supply	...	...	26	2	4	1
Pigsties	...	...	3	—	—	—
Animals improperly kept...	...	...		
Other Nuisances	...	...	1292	2	25	22
TOTALS	...	...	2522	9	136	459

Seizures and Surrenders of Unwholesome Food	...	...	No.
Samples of Food taken for Analysis	...	...	116
Ditto of Food found adulterated	...	...	10
Ditto of Water taken for Analysis	...	...	2
Ditto of Water condemned as unfit for use	...	...	—

PRECAUTIONS AGAINST INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Lots of Infected Bedding Disinfected or Destroyed	...	...	3443
Rooms of houses Disinfected after cases of Infectious Disease			264
Schools ditto ditto ditto ditto ditto			—

T. BARTLETT, Sanitary Inspector.

TABLE II.
BOROUGH OF RUGBY.

VITAL STATISTICS OF WHOLE DISTRICT DURING 1940 AND PREVIOUS
YEARS.

YEAR.	Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	BIRTHS.		NETT DEATHS BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT.			
		Nett.		Under 1 Year of age.		At all Ages.	
		Number.	Rate.	Number.	Rate per 1,000 Nett Births.	Number.	Rate.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1934	35,140	443	12.6	20	45	367	10.4
1935	35,680	400	11.2	11	28	406	11.4
1936	36,080	436	12.1	22	50	412	11.5
1937	37,260	498	13.4	20	40	420	11.3
1938	38,130	544	14.6	21	39	410	10.7
1939	39,530	550	14.0	20	36	459	11.6
1940	41,670	578	13.9	28	48	508	12.2

TABLE III.—BOROUGH OF RUGBY.
CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING THE
YEAR 1940.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	Number of Cases notified.								Total cases removed to Hospital	Total Deaths.
	At all Ages.	At Ages—Years.								
		Under 1.	1 to 5.	5 to 15.	15 to 25.	25 to 45.	45 to 65.	65 and upwards.		
Small-pox										
Plague										
Diphtheria (including Mem- branous Croup)	37	.....	6	21	8	1	1	.....	35	2
Erysipelas	20	.....			2	2	10	6		
Scarlet Fever	144	1	30	96	9	8			111	
Typhus Fever										
Enteric Fever										
Pneumonia	60	2	13	7	2	15	18	3		28
Malaria										
Dysentery										
Puerperal Pyrexia	14	.....			2	12				
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis	13	1	1	4	4	2	1			3
Poliomyelitis	2	.....		1		1				
Encephalitis Lethargica										
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	3	3								
Polio-Encephalitis										
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	21	.....			4	9	8			26
Other forms of Tuberculosis	3	.....			1	1	1			4
Totals	317	7	50	129	32	51	39	9	146	63

TABLE IV.
BOROUGH OF RUGBY.

CAUSES OF DEATH DURING THE YEAR 1940.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	MALES.	FEMALES.
All Causes	257	251
1 Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers		
2 Cerebro Spinal Fever	1	2
3 Scarlet Fever		
4 Whooping Cough		
5 Diphtheria	2	
6 Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	14	12
7 Other Forms of Tuberculosis	3	1
8 Syphilitic Diseases	2	
9 Influenza	1	2
10 Measles		
11 Ac. Polio-Myel and Polio-Enceph.		
12 Ae. Infant Enceph.		
13 Cancer of B. Cav. and Oesoph (M.) Uterus (F.)	3	4
14 Cancer of Stomach and Duod.	8	7
15 Cancer of Breast		10
16 Cancer, other Sites	19	10
17 Diabetes	1	2
18 Intra Cran. Vasc. Lesions... ..	26	28
19 Heart Disease	54	54
20 Other Dis. Circ. Sys.	9	8
21 Bronchitis	19	15
22 Pneumonia	19	9
23 Other Resp. Diseases	5	4
24 Ulcer of Stomach and Duod.	5	1
25 Diarrhoea (under 2 years)... ..	1	
26 Appendicitis	1	2
27 Other Digestive Diseases	11	7
28 Nephritis	7	8
29 Puer. and Post Abort Sepsis		
30 Other Maternal Causes		3
31 Premature Birth	4	3
32 Con. Mal., Birth Inj., etc.... ..	8	6
33 Suicide	1	3
34 Road Traffic Accidents	5	
35 Other Violent Causes	3	8
36 All Other Causes	25	42

